

**United States Department of the Interior
Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service**

**National Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form**

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections



1. Name

historic Markham School and Teacherage

and/or common

2. Location

street & number SW of Oilton N/A not for publication

city, town Oilton vicinity of Oilton congressional district No. 2

state Oklahoma code 40 county Creek code 037

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied teacherage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture school
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied school	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<u>N/A</u> in process	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Alvy Speers

street & number R.R. #1

city, town Yale vicinity of Yale state Oklahoma

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of County Clerk

street & number Creek County Courthouse

city, town Sapulpa state Oklahoma

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Cushing Historic Oil Field Survey has this property been determined eligible? yes no

date 1980 federal state county local

depository for survey records Oklahoma Historical Society - State Historic Preservation Office

city, town Oklahoma City state Oklahoma

7. Description

Condition		Check one	Check one	
<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> unaltered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> original site	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered	<input type="checkbox"/> moved	date _____
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> unexposed			

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Markham School, built in ca. 1915, is a one story building constructed of red brick. The brick is laid in stretcher courses with tooled joints, however, there are three header courses on all four sides, one running near the top of the windows and two near the bottom of the building immediately above ground level. There is a gently sloping hipped roof with two interior chimneys. The overall dimensions of the school are 32.5' x 60'.

The north facade of the building includes a row of five sash windows, 9 over 9, which is identical to the south facade. The lower portion of the three windows on the west end of the south facade has been replaced with a sliding door. The west facade, facing the teacherage, contains two large sash windows, 9 over 9, on the north and south ends. Between the two larger windows are two small sash windows, 1 over 1.

The front, or east, facade includes the original entrance door. A shed-type garage extends approximately 15' out from the east facade. A gabled dormer is featured on the garage roof. The original brick wall, which supported the east end of the garage, has been replaced with a concrete block wall in the past twenty years. All the original wood trim around the eaves and windows is unaltered.

The Markham Teacherage is a 1½ story bungalow-type building constructed in ca. 1915. The overall dimensions are 30' x 40'. The teacherage features a hipped roof with clipped gables and two interior chimneys. The front, or east, facade faces the Markham School. A veranda-type porch on the first floor leads to the entrance door on the north end and a single sash window, 1 over 1, on the south end. A second sash window, 1 over 1, (partially hidden by shrubs) is positioned south of the porch on the east facade. The north facade includes three single sash windows, 1 over 1, with louver-type shutters painted black. The rear, or south, elevation of the building contains a back entry door with two single sash windows, 1 over 1, placed on each side of the door. The rear windows also include the louver-type shutters. The west facade consists of three single sash windows, 1 over 1, and a smaller sash window, 1 over 1, on the south end.

The original clapboard has been covered with composition siding shingles during the last thirty years. Both properties are owned by Alvy Speers. He uses the teacherage as his residence and the school is used to store hay and tools.

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400–1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500–1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600–1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/ humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700–1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800–1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		

Specific dates ca. 1915–Present **Builder/Architect** City of Markham

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Markham School and Teacherage are significant because they are the only remaining buildings left in the oil boom "ghost town" of Markham and because of their role in the educational and social history of the Markham community. In late 1914, oil was discovered on the farm of John H. Markham, Jr. and virtually overnight an oil boom town emerged near the Markham Lease. Markham was platted and laid out in September, 1914. It grew to a population of 800 in 100 days with over 60 businesses. There were several stores and saloons, a bank, a hotel, a newspaper, and a United States Post Office was established on February 26, 1915 (see attached plat map of Markham).

Markham was also important because it was the site of the Markham Ferry located on the north side of the Cimarron River which was the principal means of crossing for travelers between Stillwater and Yale on one side and Cushing and Drumright on the other. By 1930, Markham had lost its United States Post Office, oil production had declined, and most of its residents had moved to nearby towns such as Oilton and Drumright. Thus in a matter of fifteen years, a new community had emerged from a farm field, reached its zenith during the flush production years of the Markham Oil Lease, and become an oil boom "ghost town."

The Markham School and Teacherage served as both an elementary and secondary school for the oil field and farming communities in the area. It reached a peak enrollment of approximately 300 students in 1917. The teacherage served as housing for Markham teachers, who numbered as many as a dozen during the heyday of the school. An intense rivalry developed between the farming population to the west of the school and the oil field families to the east, especially at school functions where athletic and social teams would be pitted against each other. During the 1920s, the Markham and Vida Way School Districts were consolidated (District #102) under the supervision of the Payne County Superintendent of Schools. The Markham School closed its doors in the 1940s due to lack of enrollment.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Interview: Alvy Speers, property owner,
April, 1980.

Lloyd, Heather M., "Oklahoma's Cushing Oil
Field," M.A. Thesis, Oklahoma State University
1976.

Interview: Lewis Lindsay, former student at
Markham School, June, 1980.

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property under one acre

Quadrangle name Oilton, OK.

Quadrangle scale 1:24000

UMT References

A

1	4	7	1	5	5	4	0	3	9	9	3	1	5	0
Zone				Easting				Northing						

B

Zone				Easting				Northing						

C

Zone				Easting				Northing						

D

Zone				Easting				Northing						

E

Zone				Easting				Northing						

F

Zone				Easting				Northing						

G

Zone				Easting				Northing						

H

Zone				Easting				Northing						

Verbal boundary description and justification

Beginning at a point on the south edge of the section line road dividing Sections 6 and 7, T18N R7E and approximately 2,500' west of the bank of the Cimarron River, proceed south approximately 250' then turn west and proceed approximately 175' running along (cont)

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	N/A	code	county	code

state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Dr. George O. Carney, Associate Professor of Geography

organization Cushing Historic Oil Field Survey date July, 1980

street & number Oklahoma State University telephone 405-624-6248

city or town Stillwater state Oklahoma

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

national state local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature CG Metcalf 2-8-82

title SHAJ date

For HCRS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

William H. Brauman date 4.21.82

Keeper of the National Register

Attest: date

Chief of Registration

**United States Department of the Interior
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Continuation sheet

Item number 9

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Shirk, George H., Oklahoma Place Names. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1965.

Yale Democrat, January 1, 1915.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

**NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY -- NOMINATION FORM**

FOR NPS USE ONLY	
RECEIVED	MAR 10 1982
DATE ENTERED	

CONTINUATION SHEET

ITEM NUMBER 10

PAGE 2

Verbal Description continued:

the south edge of the nominated property. Then turn north and proceed approximately 250' to the section line road, and then proceed east approximately 175' along the section line road to point of beginning.

MARKHAM

CREEK COUNTY

OKLAHOMA

